(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when decision would be taken on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) A conference of the Central Information Commission with the State Chief Information Commissioners and Information Commissioners was held in Delhi on 17th October, 2007.

(b) and (c) The Conference made recommendations regarding enforcement of section 4 of the Right to Information Act, 2005, autonomy to the Central Information Commission and the State Information Commissions, giving power of contempt to the Commissions, payment of honorarium to Public Information Officers and Assistant Public Information Officers, enforcement of decisions of the Commissions etc.

(d) No time frame has been fixed.

Number of Posts of Officers

1107. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of posts of Secretary, Additional Secretary, Joint Secretary and Director in Government of India;

(b) the number of SC/ST/OBC officers presently working on the above posts and their percentage;

(c) whether the percentage of SC/ST/OBC officers on these posts is as per their percentage in their respective cadres;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps Government proposes to take to promote SC/ST/OBC officers as per their percentage in their cadres and by what time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) The number of officers presently working at the level of Secretary, Additional Secretary, Joint Secretary and Director, in Government of India and the number of SC/ST officers on these posts are given below.

	Secretary level	Additional Secretary level	Joint Secretary level	Director level
Total No. of officers	118	117	447	711
No. of SCs	02	06	25	45
% age of SCs	1.69	5.13	5.59	6.33
No. of STs	02	04	14	20
% age of STs	1.69	3.42	3.13	2.81

As regards the number of OBC officers, it is stated that data regarding OBC status of the officers was not being obtained at the time of appointment of officers prior to 1994 and is therefore not available.

(c) and (d) Officers, on the above posts are appointed on deputation basis from various cadres and, therefore, the percentage of their representation on these posts need not be same as in their respective cadres.

(e) The posts of Secretary, Additional Secretary and Joint Secretary in the Ministries/ Departments are not promotion posts, with the exception of posts in the Ministry of External Affairs etc., where the posts of these designations are cadre posts. Under the Central Staffing Scheme, the posts of Secretary, Additional Secretary and Joint Secretary in other Ministries/Departments are mostly filled by appointment of officers, borrowed from various cadres including the State cadres, who are empanelled to hold such posts. Also, the posts of Director (excluding the posts which are in the cadre of Central Secretariat Service) are filled under Central Staffing Scheme by borrowing officers from various cadres.

Officers on Foreign Assignment

1108. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the officers of All India Services deputed on foreign assignment since 1998 by Government, who have unauthorisedly overstayed in excess of the prescribed period of five years;

(b) the action taken by Government against the above officers in terms of the Conduct Rules and details for each of them; and

(c) the details of each case where such unauthorised stay exceeding five years has been regularised by Government and the provisions under which each such case has been regularised since 1998?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (c) Details are given in the enclosed statement.